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1. United Nations prisoners of war¹ at Kangdong camp in Taesong-ni (125-57, 39-02) (YD-5524) were considered reactionaries by North Koreans because they refused to take the Communist pledge on or about 20 November 1951. Later some prisoners yielded, volunteered for labor teams, and were not required to wear prison uniforms. Prison officials noted this tendency to yield and increased the pressure on prisoners, using a propaganda line that they had better support the North Koreans and be released than die of disease or escape and be put into the ROK Army again. Tension between North Korean and ROK sympathizers rose until a riot broke out at 8 a.m. on 9 July between 600 ROK and 100 North Korean sympathizers. Fifty guards armed with 2 light machine guns and rifles fired on the rioters and quiet was restored at 10 a.m. Casualties were 6 North Korean sympathizers killed and 20 wounded and 4 ROK sympathizers killed and 30 wounded. Five leaders of the pro-ROK prisoners were executed as soon as the riot was quelled and rations were reduced to 2 meals of annamese rice and corn each day. Also, prisoners were forbidden to wash or move about within the compound except for trips to the latrine.
2. Prisoners of war in the P'yongyang camp in the former People's School at Sosong-ni (125-43, 39-01) (YD-3522) were questioned in January 1952 and found to be strong ROK sympathizers. Food consisted of a ball of corn about the size of a fist, twice daily and vegetable broth on Sunday. No sanitary or

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medical facilities were provided the prisoners, with the result that out of 1,200 ROK prisoners in this camp in January 1952 only 800 survived by the end of June.

3. At this camp squads of 10 prisoners each were formed with a leader from another camp who had defected to the Communists. Propaganda lectures on Soviet revolutionary history, American capitalism, and corruption of the ROK government were given 2 hours daily. On 1 July 1952, prisoners flatly refused to take part in the classes. As punishment, their jackets were marked "prisoner of war" in Korean and they were sent to clean up bombed-out areas in guarded labor teams.
4. Prisoners went on these labor details peacefully since they could beg cigarettes from civilians during their rest periods. Camp officials believed that the prisoners had relaxed and ordered resumption of the propaganda lectures with a theme that it is better to volunteer for rear service labor corps and work in dignity without a POW uniform than return to the ROK where it is impossible to make a living amidst the corruption in the ROK government.
5. On 18 July at 7:30 a.m., strong ROK prisoner sympathizers refused to take part in either the Labor Party or propaganda lectures. When one squad leader began beating one prisoner for refusing to work, fighting broke out in all sections of the camp. Pro-Communist squad leaders were beaten with clubs, and stones were hurled at guards. Twenty guards fired into the rioters with rifles, wounding ten prisoners,² and quiet was restored at 9 a.m. As punishment, restrictions similar to those imposed at the Kangdong camp were placed on prisoners.
6. In early August, a prisoner-of-war camp with 1,000 ROK army prisoners was at Sosong-ni primary school (YD-370222). Prisoners looked poorly fed and needed medical attention.

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1. Comment. The nationality of the prisoners was not stated; however, from the context it is believed that ROK prisoners are meant.
 2. Comment. Casualties among guards and squad leaders are not known.
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